packages is under various stages of implementation and is expected to be completed progressively by August, 1996.

Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) Modernisation

The modernisation is being implemented through 4 main global packages and 25 indigenous packages. Orders for all the global packages have been placed. Preparatory works of the project are underway. The project is scheduled to be completed by June, 1997.

(b) Yes, Sir. Private and Multi National Companies are involved in the implementation of the modernisation projects for each of the plants mentioned in part (a) above.

(c) The total requirement of funds for modernisation projects is assessed at Rs. 9763.08 crores.

लौह अयस्क का निर्यात

3359. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश से लौह-अयस्क का निर्यात किया जाता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों अर्थात् 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के दौरान क्रमश: कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में लौह-अयस्क का निर्यात किया गया है;

(ग) निर्यात किए गए लौह-अयस्क की मात्रा का देशवार ब्यौरा क्या है और उन्हें यह किस-किस मूल्य पर बेचा गया;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश से तैयारशुदा (फिनिश्ड) इस्पात का भी निर्यात किया गया है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उक्त अवधि के दौरान निर्यात किए गए तैयारशुदा इस्पात की मात्रा और उसके मूल्य का वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(च) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस्पात, लोहे और ढलवां लोहे के निर्यात से लौह-अयस्क के निर्यात की तुलना में अधिक विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की जा सकती है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में अर्जित की गयी विदेशी मुद्रा की तुलनात्मक धनराशि के संबंध में औसत अनुमान क्या है?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) वर्ष 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के दौरान लौह अयस्क का देशवार निर्यात और उसका मूल्य नीचे दिया गया है:--

मात्रा : लाख टन
मूल्य : करोड़ रुपए

क्र. सं.	देश	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94 (अनन्तिम)	
		मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
1.	आस्ट्रेलिया	4.35	32.70	2.21	19.63	2.58	21.71
2.	चीन	16.37	96.51	34.70	186.13	40.87	215.97
3.	जापान	183.02	864.26	157.88	822.16	163.69	830.53
4.	दक्षिण-कोरिया	37.04	191.22	41.87	218.09	41.30	218.64
5.	अन्य	55.97	283.04	43.57	253.22	66.93	335.60
	कुल	296.75	1467.73	280.23	1499.23	315.37	1622.45

(घ) जी, हां।

(ङ) वर्ष 1991-92 से 1993-94 के दौरान परिसज्जित इस्पात का वर्ष-वार निर्यात और उसका मूल्य नीचे दिया गया है:--

	मात्रा	मूल्य
1991-92	3.74 लाख टन	276 करोड़ रुपए
1992-93	7.51 लाख टन	604 करोड़ रुपए
1993-94	11.42 लाख टन	1077 करोड़ रुपए

इसके अतिरिक्त उपरोक्त अवधि के दौरान सेमीज का वर्षवार निर्यात और उसका मूल्य नीचे दिया गया है:-

	मात्रा	मूल्य
1991-92	0.13 लाख टन	7 करोड़ रुपए
1992-93	1.43 लाख टन	98 करोड़ रुपए
1993-94	4.58 लाख टन	340 करोड़ रुपए

(च) जी, हां।

(छ) 1993-94 के दौरान लौह अयस्क के निर्यात से अर्जित अनुमानित विदेशी मुद्रा लगभग 52 करोड़ प्रति दस लाख टन थी जबकि परिसज्जित इस्पात के निर्यात के अर्जित विदेशी मुद्रा 943 करोड़ रुपए प्रति दस लाख टन थी।

Sale of Bailadila Mine

3360. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bailadila mine to be sold to Essar or Nippon Denro" brought out in the Business Standard, New Delhi dated the 23rd July, 1994;

(b) whether any investigation has been ordered into the whole episode to find out the actual reasons for such proposed sale;

(c) whether it is a fact that some production managers of the controlling company, a PSU, are joining hands with private parties;

(d) whether Government have intervened into the decision taken by the company as reported; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The iron ore available at Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit No. 11-B in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh is reportedly best suited for production of sponge iron in gas-based plants. It is therefore proposed to take up development of this deposit as a joint venture between National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) and one of the private sector entrepreneurs who are operating or setting up a gas-based sponge iron ore plant in the country and who already have an assurance from NMDC to meet a substantial part of the plant's requirement of iron ore.

(c) NMDC has reported that it does not have any such information.

(d) and (e) The proposal to implement the project as a joint venture has the approval of the Government.

Steel Consumption

3361. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita rate of steel consumption in the country;

(b) whether there are plans to increase the availability of steel at cheaper prices to the agricultural and rural sector;

(c) whether Government propose to ensure that cheaper steel items are available to the people in rural area;

(d) whether more distribution centres will be set up;

(e) whether SAIL has taken any note of the steel items in demand in rural areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Per Capita apparent consumption of crude steel in the country in 1992 was 21.7 kg.*

(b) and (c) After de-regulation of prices and distribution w.e.f. 16th January, 1992, Government has no control over the prices of steel and they are governed by market forces. There is at present no shortage of steel in the country and Main Producers are having inventories of about 1.1 million tonnes as on 1.7.1994.

(d) Taking into the consideration the steel demand at various consumption centres, the Main Producers may open new distribution outlets where required.

(e) and (f) SAIL has taken note of the steel items in demand in the rural areas and is catering to the various market segments including agricultural and rural sectors through its net work of 57 distribution points. SAIL is also supplying steel on priority to the Small Scale Industries Corporations (SSICs) of the different states with rebates. SSICs in turn meet the demand of the small scale units located throughout the State. SAIL is also contemplating opening additional outlets to meet the small requirements of steel in remote areas of the country.

*Source: Statistical Year Book, 1993, IISI, BRUSSELS.